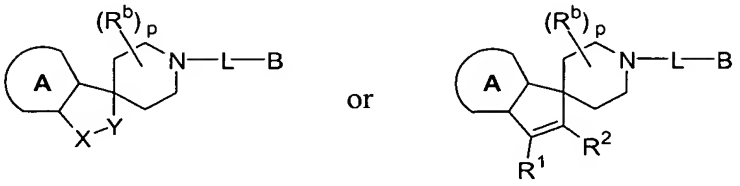
IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula:



I or II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof, wherein

A represents a substituted or unsubstituted benzene;

B is substituted or unsubstituted carbazolyl;

L is (C_1-C_4)alkylene;

X and Y are each independently [[CH or]] CH_2 [[wherein the C is]] optionally substituted with $-OR^3$, $-N(R^3)COR^4$, $-C(O)NR^3R^4$, $-N(R^3)CO_2R^4$, $-N(R^3)C(O)N(R^4)R^5$, or [[—C(O)]] $-C(O)R^4$;

R^1 and R^2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_2-C_8)alkenyl, (C_2-C_8)alkynyl, (C_1-C_8)heteroalkyl, aryl, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-NR^6C(O)R^5$, $-C(O)R^5$ and $-NR^5C(O)NR^6$;

each R^b is selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)alkyl, aryl, OR^7, $C(O)R^7$ and $C(O)NR^7R^8$;

R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_8)alkyl, hetero(C_1-C_8)alkyl, aryl, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl, C(O)R', CO_2R' and C(O)NR'R";

R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_8)alkyl, C(O)R'", CO_2R'", aryl and aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl;

optionally, R^7 and R^8 may be combined with the nitrogen to which each is attached to form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered ring;

R', R" and R'" are independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_8)alkyl, aryl and aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl; and

the subscript p is an integer of from 0 to 4.

2. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, wherein the subscript p is 0.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

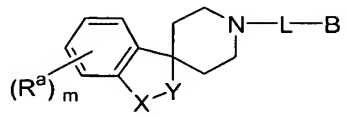
8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein **A** represents benzene and B is substituted or unsubstituted 3-carbazolyl.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Amended) The compound of Claim 1, having the formula (**IV**):



IV

wherein:

each R^a is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, halo(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl, $OC(O)R^{17}$, $NR^{17}R^{18}$, SR^{17}, cyano, nitro, CO_2R^{17}, $CONR^{17}R^{18}$, $C(O)R^{17}$, $OC(O)NR^{17}R^{18}$, $NR^{18}C(O)R^{17}$, $NR^{18}CO_2R^{17}$, $NR^{19}C(O)NR^{17}R^{18}$, $S(O)_kR^{17}$, $S(O)_kNR^{17}R^{18}$, N_3, (C_4-C_8)cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_8)cycloalkenyl, aryl and heteroaryl, and the subscript k is an integer of from 1 to 2;

R^{17}, R^{18} and R^{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_8)alkyl, (C_1-C_8)heteroalkyl, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl and aryl; and

the subscript m is an integer of from 0 to 4.

13. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 12, wherein X or Y is CH—OH [[CH, wherein the C is substituted with —OH]].

14. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 12, wherein Y is CH—OH [[—C_1 alkylene— substituted with —OH]].

15. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 12, wherein X is CH—N(R^3)COR^4 [[CH, wherein the C is substituted with —N(R^3)COR^4]].

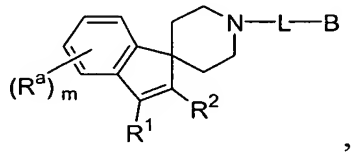
16. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 12, wherein X is CH—N(R^3)COR^4 [[CH, wherein the C is substituted with —N(R^3)COR^4]] and Y is CH—OH [[—C_1 alkylene— substituted with —OH]].

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 1 having the formula (**V**):



V

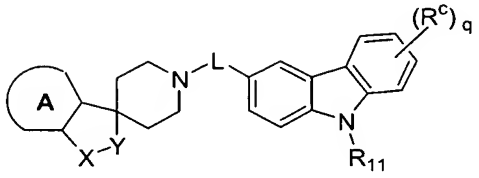
wherein

each [[Ra]] R^a is independently halogen, halo(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl, OC(O)R^{17}, N$R^{17}R^{18}$, SR^{17}, cyano, nitro, CO_2R^{17}, CON$R^{17}R^{18}$, C(O)R^{17}, OC(O)N$R^{17}R^{18}$, NR^{18}C(O)R^{17}, N$R^{18}CO_2R^{17}$, NR^{19}C(O)N$R^{17}R^{18}$, S(O)$_k$$R^{17}$, S(O)$_kNR^{17}R^{18}$, N_3, (C_4-C_8)cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_8)cycloalkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl, wherein R^{17}, R^{18} and R^{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_8)alkyl, (C_1-C_8)heteroalkyl, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl and aryl, and the subscript k is an integer of from 1 to 2; and

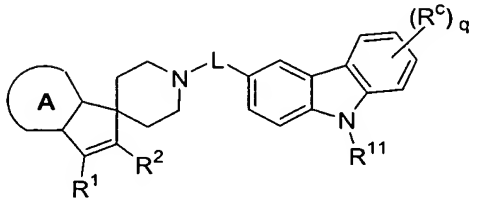
the subscript m is an integer of from 0 to 4.

21. (Original) The compound of Claim 20, wherein R^1 and R^2 are H.

22. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, having the formula:



or



VII **VIII**

wherein

R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of H, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_8)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_8)$alkynyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$heteroalkyl, aryl, aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkenyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl-alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloheteroalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloheteroalkyl-alkyl, $C(O)R^{12}$, CO_2R^{12}, $C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$, $S(O)_kR^{12}$ and $S(O)_kNR^{12}R^{13}$;

each R^c is independently selected from the group consisting of $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_8)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_8)$alkynyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$heteroalkyl, halo$(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, halogen, CN, NO_2, OR^{14}, SR^{14}, $NR^{14}R^{15}$, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkenyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl-alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloheteroalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloheteroalkyl-alkyl, $C(O)R^{14}$, CO_2R^{14}, $C(O)NR^{14}R^{15}$, aryl, aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, $S(O)_kR^{14}$, $S(O)_kNR^{14}R^{15}$, $N(R^{15})S(O)_kR^{14}$, $OC(O)R^{14}$, OCO_2R^{14}, $OC(O)NR^{14}R^{15}$, $N(R^{16})C(O)NR^{14}R^{15}$, $N(R^{15})C(O)R^{14}$ and $N(R^{15})CO_2R^{14}$;

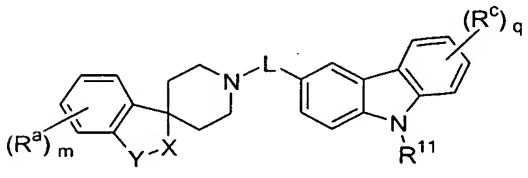
optionally, any two adjacent R^c groups may be combined to form a fused aryl ring or $(C_5\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl ring;

R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15} and R^{16} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$heteroalkyl, aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl and aryl;

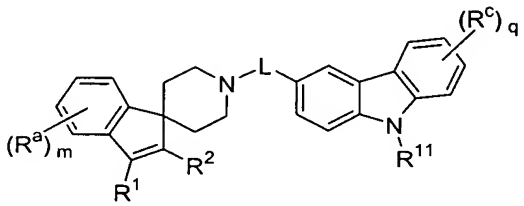
the subscript q is an integer of from 0 to 7; and

the subscript k is an integer of from 1 to 2.

23. (Original) The compound of Claim 22, having the formula:



or



X **XI**

wherein

each R^a is independently selected from the group consisting of halogen,

halo(C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl, $OC(O)R^{17}$, $NR^{17}R^{18}$, SR^{17}, cyano, nitro, CO_2R^{17}, $CONR^{17}R^{18}$, $C(O)R^{17}$, $OC(O)NR^{17}R^{18}$, $NR^{18}C(O)R^{17}$, $NR^{18}CO_2R^{17}$, $NR^{19}C(O)NR^{17}R^{18}$, $S(O)_kR^{17}$, $S(O)_kNR^{17}R^{18}$, N_3, (C_4-C_8)cycloalkyl, (C_5-C_8)cycloalkenyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

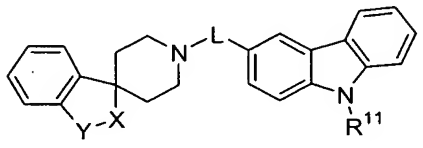
R^{17}, R^{18} and R^{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, (C_1-C_8)alkyl, (C_1-C_8)heteroalkyl, aryl(C_1-C_4)alkyl and aryl;

the subscript m is an integer of from 0 to 4; and

each subscript k is an integer of from 1 to 2.

24. (Previously Amended) The compound of any one of Claims 1, 20 and 23, wherein L is methylene.

25. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim 23, having the formula (**Xa**):



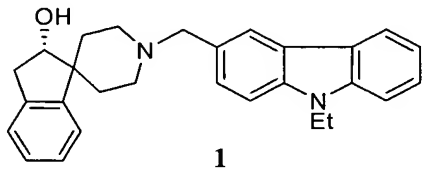
Xa

wherein

L is methylene; and

X and Y are <u>each</u> independently <u>CH_2</u> [[selected from —(C_1-C_2)alkylene—, wherein C_1 or C_2 is]] optionally substituted with —OR^3, —$N(R^3)COR^4$, —$C(O)NR^3R^4$ or —$N(R^3)C(O)N(R^4)R^5$.

26. (Currently Amended) The compound of Claim [[25]] 23, having a formula selected from the group consisting of:



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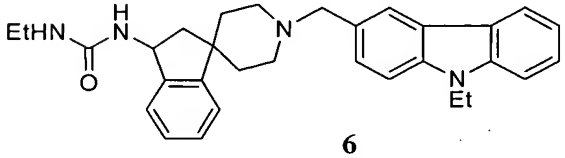

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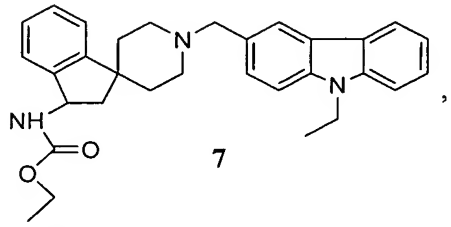

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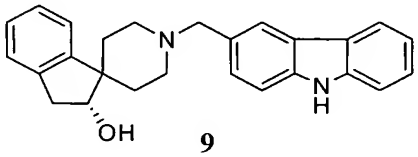

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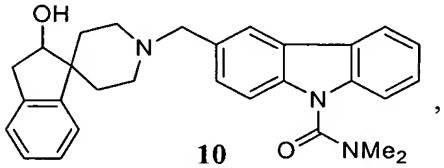

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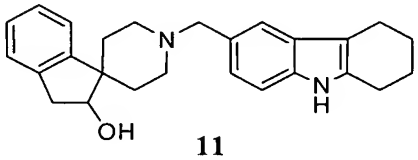

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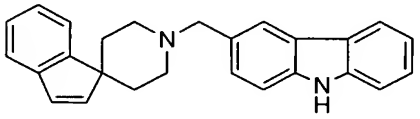

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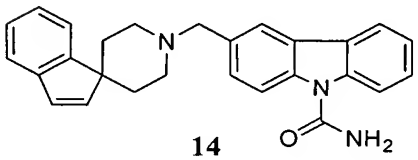

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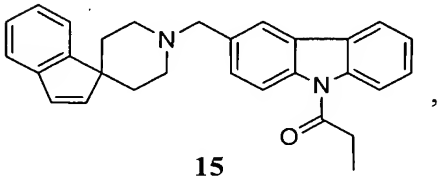

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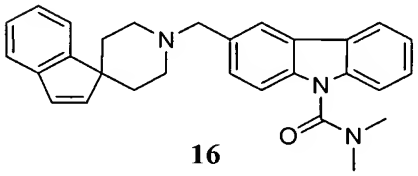

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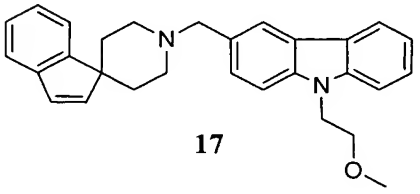
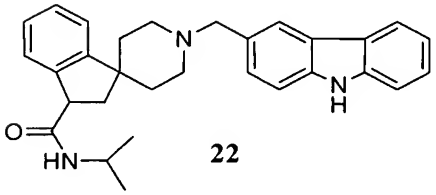
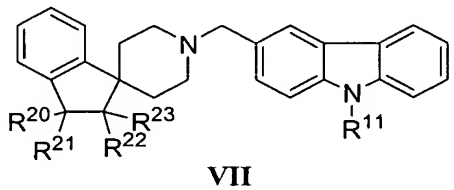


17 , and



22 .

27. (Previously Amended) A compound of formula:



VII

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, or solvate thereof, wherein

R^{20} and R^{23} independently represent H or OR^3;

R^{21} and R^{22} independently represent H, OR^3, $N(R^3)COR^4$, $C(O)NR^3R^4$, $N(R^3)CO_2R^4$, $N(R^3)C(O)N(R^4)R^5$, $N(R^3)R^4$, $C(O)N(R^3)R^4$, $N(R^3)C(O)R^4$, $(CH_2)C(O)N(R^3)(R^4)$, $(CH_2)CO_2R^3$, or $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl;

R^{11} represents H, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_8)$alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_8)$alkynyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$heteroalkyl, aryl, aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl, $(C_5\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkenyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloalkyl-alkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloheteroalkyl, $(C_3\text{-}C_8)$cycloheteroalkyl-alkyl, $C(O)R^{12}$, CO_2R^{12}, $C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$, $S(O)_kR^{12}$ or $S(O)_kNR^{12}R^{13}$;

R^{12} and R^{13} independently represent H, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$heteroalkyl, aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl or aryl;

R^3 and R^4 independently represent H, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, hetero$(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, aryl, aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl, C(O)R', CO_2R' or C(O)NR'R"; and

R', R" and R"' are independently selected from the group consisting of H, $(C_1\text{-}C_8)$alkyl, aryl and aryl$(C_1\text{-}C_4)$alkyl.

28. (Original) The compound of Claim 27, wherein R^{20} and R^{23} each represent H, R^{22} represents OH, and R^{21} represents $N(R^3)C(O)R^4$.

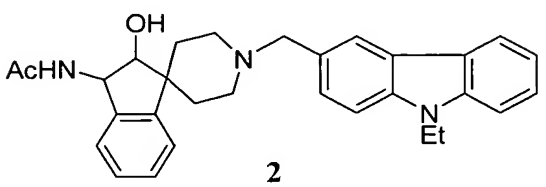
29. (Original) The compound of Claim 27, wherein R^{20} represents OH, and R^{22} and R^{23} each represent H, and R^{21} represents C_2 alkyl.

30. (Original) The compound of Claim 27, wherein R^{20}, R^{22}, and R^{23} each represent H and R^{21} represents $N(R^3)C(O)R^4$.

31. (Original) The compound of Claim 27, wherein R^{20}, R^{22}, and R^{23} each represent H and R^{21} represents $(CH_2)CO_2R^3$.

32. (Original) The compound of Claim 27, wherein R^{20}, R^{22}, and R^{23} each represent H and R^{21} represents $(CH_2)C(O)N(R^3)(R^4)$.

33. (Original) The compound of Claim 27, having a formula that is selected from the group consisting of:



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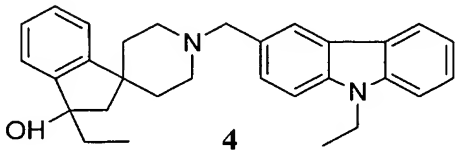

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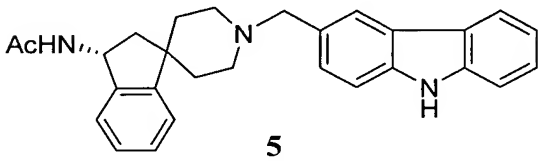

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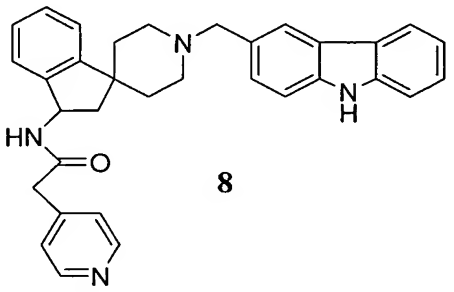

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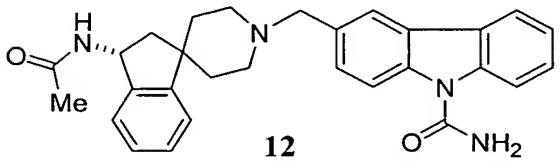

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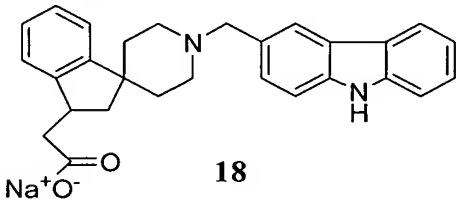

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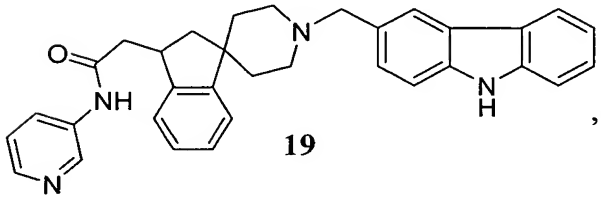

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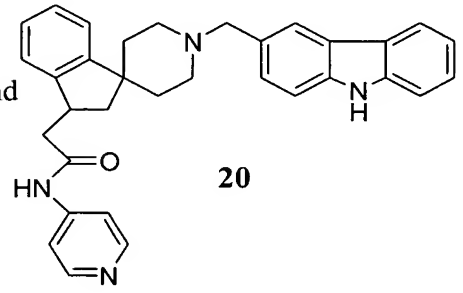

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34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Amended) The compound of Claim 25, wherein L is methylene.

43. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient and a compound of Claim 1.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a condition or disorder selected from the group consisting of obesity, type II diabetes, hypertension, hyperuricemia, stroke, dyslipidemia, coronary artery disease, hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis[[.]] comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Cancelled)

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63. (Cancelled)

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Cancelled)